

NEWS RELEASE

Virginia DOT.org

RELEASE: IMMEDIATE STA-053 CONTACT: Sandy Myers (540) 332-9201 March 20, 2008

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ROUTE 50 IN FREDERICK COUNTY WILL HAVE MAJOR CLOSURES Closures will be March 28-31 and April 18-21

STAUNTON – Motorists traveling on Route 50 near the Virginia border with West Virginia should be alert for two upcoming temporary but major traffic pattern changes.

The first closure will take place beginning at 4 p.m. on March 28 and lasting until 5 a.m. on March 31. Both eastbound lanes of Route 50 (Northwestern Pike) in the Gore area of Frederick County will be closed. This location is approximately .1 mile west of Route 752 (Knob Road) and is near the Virginia and West Virginia state line.

The closure is due to railroad work being performed by the Winchester and Western Railroad in the Gore area. All work is weather permitting.

The detour for the Route 50 eastbound closure from March 28 to 31 is as follows:

Traffic traveling east on Route 50 from any point west of the Gore area, including West Virginia, should head west on Route 50 into West Virginia and turn right onto Route 29 north to Route 127 east and continue to Route 522 south. Motorists should stay on Route 522 south until they reach Route 37. To get back on to Route 50 travelers should head south on Route 37 to the next interchange, which is Route 50.

Passenger vehicles can use an alternate shorter route at Route 703 (Whitacre Road) located west of Gore. This alternate route uses several secondary roads which are not suitable for tractor trailer traffic.

The second closure will be from April 18 to 21 at the same location. Both westbound Route 50 lanes will be closed beginning at 7 p.m. on April 18 and lasting until 5 a.m. on April 21. VDOT will send out detour information at the beginning of April.

Traffic alerts and traveler information can be obtained by dialing 511. In areas where 511 is unavailable, dial 1-800-578-4111. (TTY/TDD users, call 711). Traffic alerts and traveler information also are available at 511Virginia.org.

Highway safety is everyone's responsibility. Virginia's highway safety partnership — the Virginia Department of Transportation, Virginia Department of Motor Vehicles and Virginia State Police — challenges you to help prevent highway fatalities. Buckle up. Avoid distractions. Share the road. Drive drug- and alcohol-free. Obey speed limits. For more information on the

Highway Safety Challenge and things you can do to avoid becoming Virginia's next traffic fatality, visit www.safeVAhighways.org.

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